

Abstract

A food quality indicator device an indicator compound provided on a substrate. The indicator compound changes color due to the presence of volatile compounds, 5 such as volatile bases, in spoiled food, even when the food is frozen. Alternatively, the indicator compound detects the presence of an unwanted amine-producing biological agent, such as bacteria or fungi. The indicator compound is typically contained within a polymeric matrix disposed 10 on the substrate. Examples of suitable indicator compounds include halogenated azo dyes, sulfonated xanthene dyes, and sulfonated hydroxy-functional triphenylmethane dyes.

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